IMT Nuremberg Archives

H – 946

International Court of Justice

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Lesser
14 June 1946.

H0946 - 0002

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENSE OF ORGANIZATIONS, TAKEN BEFORE A COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL DATED 13 MARCH 1946.

14 June 1946

COMMISSIONER:

Captain Joseph Tubridy

THE SD

(THE COMMISSION CONVENED AT 1000 HOURS.)

DIETER WISLICENY, a witness, took the stand and testified as follows:

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Does the witness understand that he is still under oath?

WITNESS: Yes.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Dr. Pelckmann, did you want to ask this witness any questions?

DR. PELCKMANN: I have only about three or four questions.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Very well, proceed.

RE-DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY DR. PELCKMANN: (Defense Counsel for the SS)

Q Witness, you ~~were~~ told that after you had explained to the members or the representative of the Joint Distribution Committee that the Jews were being sent towards a "final solution" that the knowledge of this spread among the Jews. You also told that ~~this~~ it was made clear by radio broadcasts and foreign newspaper articles that Jews being deported to the East were going to their doom and it is said that due to the that that was known in all foreign papers that the entire SD should have had knowledge of this too. Is that right?

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A When I talked to the gentlemen from the Joint Distribution Committee they already heard of the purposes of this deportation. Some rumors or stories had leaked out through refugees coming from Poland. As far as I know the foreign newspapers and foreign radios only let this fact be known to wide circles or publicized this fact in 1944. However, within the SD only certain persons or certain groups were concerned with foreign radio and newspaper stories and it was not the case that every SD member could read foreign papers or even listen to the foreign radio. Therefore I do not know to what extent the general knowledge of these occurrences was prevalent due to foreign newspaper and radio stories.

Q Was it such that members of Amt VI, that is Foreign Intelligence, that if they received such news or messages through foreign radios or foreign press, could they give out this information to their friends and colleagues?

A I do not know what the relation was within Amt VI. However, I know that between Amt III and AMT VII and AMT VI there was virtually no official or personal relation.

Q The Prosecution maintained in your questioning that the Jews who were being deported to the East knew of their fate. I would like to find out from you whether they did or, if they did not know what their fate was, tell us why they could not have any idea or could not have known what would happen to them.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Excuse me a minute. Dr. Pelckmann, you should not ask questions like that. You are practically telling the witness what you are wanting him to testify to.

DR. PELCKMANN: I don't think so. I said did they know it and if they did not know it could he tell me why they could not have known their fate. I did not tell the witness the reasons.

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CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Dr. Pelckmann, that is known as a "leading question" and with your own witness that is not permitted. ~~It is permitted only when he is not your witness.~~

DR. PELCKMANN: I will attempt to word it differently.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Very well.

BY DR. PELCKMANN:

Q What measures were made or were attempted in order that the Jews would not get any idea what their fate would be, that is, that they would be gassed or liquidated?

A First of all, the entire action was called "resettlement." The Jews were permitted to take 100 pounds of baggage and it was generally attempted to make it seem like a resettlement to Poland.

Q And when they arrived in the camps what measures were taken in order to lull them into a false security, that is to make them think that here was only a very peaceful atmosphere?

A I do not know that from my own knowledge. Eichmann only told me that the Jews were always told that they would be deloused and similar things.

Q However, the fact that they were allowed to take only 100 pounds of baggage and that they were not allowed to take any valuables whatsoever or any foreign currency, for instance from Greece, it was that fact that the Prosecution maintains should have aroused the suspicions of the people and of the personnel. Can you explain this?

A As far as the money and gold was concerned, the facts were thus:

COLONEL ORLOV: The witness is not speaking loudly or slowly enough.

A (continued) As far as the cash money was concerned the Greek Drachmen could not be used as a coin of exchange in Poland and the taking along of gold was prohibited through the German Foreign Currency Law. As far as the 100

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pounds of baggage limit was concerned, that was nothing special, since during the evacuation or re-settlement of the Poles into the General Government area or Military Government Area, they could take only 100 pounds of baggage also. I also know of various other re-settlement projects where the settlers were allowed to take along only 100 pounds of baggage.

Q Did you know that the Jews that were emigrated out of Germany in 1939 or 1938 even, that they also were not allowed to take along any foreign currency or cash money whatsoever and that the Germans that were being deported or sent out of Czechoslovakia and Poland also were allowed only 100 pounds of baggage and besides that they were not allowed to take any money along?

A Yes, I know that from the press.

Q You were asked various questions concerning whether or not you had seen the camp of Auschwitz since it seemed that you gave different answers at various times. First let me ask you quite a general question. Do you believe that camps like Auschwitz were cut off from the outside world and so far distant from any human settlement that it was very hard for any outsider to find out what was actually happening within this camp?

A I am very sorry if I have created an opinion that I contradicted myself at various times of my interrogations. When you hear the word Auschwitz today it has two meanings to every person that hears it, first you have the geographical idea of a little town of Auschwitz and secondly you get immediately the idea of gas chambers and the liquidation or extermination of Jews. When I spoke to Hoess, the commandant of Auschwitz, the first time, I did not enter the camp. I asked the guard at the first road block where I could meet the commandant. He called up camp headquarters and reported to me that Hoess was at present [illegible] at a hotel called Haus der Waffen-SS near the railroad station of Auschwitz. The guard suggested to me that I

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do not drive through the camp itself since there was a steady control in their check points and suggested that I drive around the entire camp to the other side to the little town of Auschwitz. That is what I did and I met Hoess in this hotel or casino. We had a conversation of about half an hour and I left Auschwitz without having entered the camp. The second time I was south in the summer of 1942 with the Slovak newspaper man, Fialla. We were in Upper Silesia and visited Jewish Workers Camps. In the morning we were in Sosnovize and visited the ghetto and saw large factories in which Jews worked for the armament industry. In the afternoon we drove to Auschwitz where another Workers' Camp was ~~xxx~~ supposed to be shown to us. As we drove towards the camp on the road Kattowitz-Krakhov, I noticed that around the entire camp was a huge circle or a huge area that was not settled. We went to the Camp Headquarters and there Hoess told us that the area of the camp consisted of about 150,000 morgen. He mentioned that within this area there was a factory for synthetic rubber, a mine, and there were also huge agricultrual areas. We then left the headquarters and took a few steps to a large group of buildings that was immediately behind the headquarters. This was the administration buildings, a huge kitchen and right opposite it some barracks. We visited that area or group of buildings. We then went back to the headquarters, to the commandant office, where our cars were. Hoess drove away with the first car and I followed in the next car, with the Slovak journalist. We drove along quite a distance, along a well built road, until we came first to a huge laundry and then to a huge carpenter work shop.

Q Was that within the cut-off, or the guarded camp area?

A Yes. The journalist was allowed to make pictures of this entire trip. After this trip we said goodbye to Hoess in front of the Headquarters and left Auschwitz. If, therefore, I am asked concerning Auschwitz, I have to say that I did not see the Auschwitz containing gas chambers, I did not see

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the Auschwitz of mass destruction of Jews, I saw Auschwitz only as a Work Camp. That is what I wanted to say before Colonel Brookhart during my interrogation.

Q Isn't it right that if you made this statement as explicitly as you made it here that this story was not taken down in transcript in its entirety but just parts thereof - a resume?

A I did not make such a complete and detailed description before Colonel Brookhart as I made it here before you. My visit to Auschwitz was not of such great importance during my interrogation that I had to make such a detailed statement.

DR. PELCKMANN: That is all.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY:

Q Did you meet von Thadden at Auschwitz?

A No.

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q I would like to ask a question on the same subject. At what time where you in Greece?

A February 1942 until the end of March 1942.

Q Did you meet von Thadden?

A Yes.

Q In Greece?

A Yes.

Q Did you discuss the evacuation of Jews with him?

A No. It was purely a personal discussion in a small hotel in Athens.

Q What were his functions in Greece?

A I believe that he belonged to the staff of the Ambassador, Neubacher.

Q Had he any mission concerning the Jewish question?

A No, I only discussed the Jewish question with the Ambassador Altenburg.

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Q Were there two German ministers in Greece?

A Minister Altenburg was the Ambassador for political matters and Neubacher was for all economic matters.

Q But certain questions concerned at the same time the political aspect and the economic aspect, didn't they?

A Neubacher was the so-called representative for all economic matters in the Southeast.

Q The liquidation of Jews concerned the economical situation of the eastern countries, didn't it?

A That is right.

Q Thank you. I have no further questions. Oh, I'm sorry, there is another one...

DR. PELCKMANN: I am under the impression that the witness was not finished with his answer but that he wanted to say something else. I ask that he be allowed to continue his answer.

M. MONNERAY: I am not interested in the specific organization of the economical question in the Southeast but only on the question of principle whether or not the Jewish emigration concerned the economical situation and on this point the witness gave me a sufficient answer.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: I do not think it is important enough, Dr. Pelckmann, to press the point.

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q You told us that you met Hoess had the Hotel "House of the Waffen-SS" didn't you?

A Yes.

Q Why, in the camp, was there a hotel called Waffen-SS?

A That was outside the camp - that was in town.

Q Was a garrison of the Waffen-SS in the town of Auschwitz?

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A No, I don't think so. I don't know.

Q Was Sturmbannfuehrer Guenther a member of the SD?

A There were two brothers, two Guenthers. I do not know which one you mean.

Q Where have they worked?

A One, Rolf, was the deputy of Eichmann in Berlin and the other one worked in Prague.

Q And neither the one or the other was at any time in France?

A I don't believe they were in France.

Q Brunner, working in France, was he a member of the SD?

A Yes, I believe so.

M. MONNERAY: I have no further questions.

DR. GAWLIK,(Defense Counsel for the SD.): I have some questions.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Dr. Gawlik, along what lines do you intend to ~~address your~~ questions to the witness?

DR. GAWLIK: Along the same lines as I questioned the witness, that is concerning the cross-examination.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Will you make it brief please?

DR. GAWLIK: Mr. President, may I ask that the German stenographers be told that in case they cannot get along during the examination they let it be known immediately. I have noticed many very bad errors of transcription in the transcript.

BY DR. GAWLIK:

Q Witness, I present to you first the diagram which you made and which was one of the bases of the cross-examination. I wish you would tell me how many of these persons belonged to the SD.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: For the purposes of the record may we have it indicated what the witness is looking at?

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DR. GAWLIK: It is a document from the examination by the Prosecution of the 3rd of January 1946 before the Tribunal. As far as I remember it did not receive any Exhibit Number before the Tribunal. (Appendix A I. Position of Sub-sections IV A 4 b in AMT IV of RSHA responsible for solution of the Jewish Question.)

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Very well. Proceed.

BY DR. GAWLIK:

A The Chief of the Committee IV A 4 b, Obersturmbannfuehrer Eichmann...

Q Witness, for the sake of saving time I just want to know the number, how many people are there on this diagram and how many of these were in the SD.

A Of the 19 persons, leading personnel of Section IV A 4 b I do not know concerning all, what organization they belonged to or how many of them belonged to the SD and Gestapo. I do, however, know that eight of them belonged to the Gestapo and that 10 belonged to the SD. Concerning Obersturmbannfuehrer Krunig, I do not know whether he just belonged to the Allgemeine or Regular SS.

Q Witness, am I correctin supposing, and if I am not will you please correct me, that these persons that used to belong to the SD did not belong to that organization any more once they were transferred to the Commission Eichmann?

M. MONNERAY: I am sorry to interpose once more but I think it is necessary to ask the defense counsel not to frame the questions in this way. The witness knows immediately what answer the defense counsel would like to get.

DR. GAWLIK: I would like to have the right answer. I just asked the witness in this way in order to clear up any misunderstanding in the record.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: You would like to have it answered so that you would have the record cleared up in the fashion in which you would like to have it cleared up.

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BY DR. GAWLIK:

Q Witness, then I ask you the following way. Clear up the relation between Office Eichmann and the SD. Did the SD members that were connected with Bureau Eichmann have anything at all to do with the SD?

A I already attempted during my interrogation to clear up these points. The members that belonged to Group Eichmann that came from the SD received no orders whatsoever from the SD any more but solely from Eichmann and Amt IV. However, they were still, as far as personnel questions were concerned, in the SD.

Q Was the Office Eichmann part of the Organization of the SD?

A No.

Q Thank you. Did offices or groups of the SD work together with Group Eichmann?

A As far as I know, no.

Q Did the offices of the SD, for instance especially Amt III, send any documents or anything whatsoever for the purpose of registration of Jews?

A I don't know anything about that.

Q How about Amt VI?

A I don't know about that.

Q Amt VII?

A I don't know anything about that either.

Q Did Amt III of the Reich Security Main Office have a Jewish consultant or Jewish Commission?

A No.

Q Make it clear how long there was a Jewish Consultant or Jewish Commission in the SD.

A From 1936 to 1939 when Amt II (1) was dissolved in the SD.

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Q Make it clear once more to us what was the duty or the goal of that consulting body or that committee.

A I repeatedly stated during my interrogations and questioning that it was merely for the information of the Jewish Question, especially as far as emigration was concerned.

Q Did this Jewish consulting body or commission have as its purpose to prepare the extermination of the Jews?

A No.

Q Did the Action Eichmann belong to the duties or the goal of the SD?

A I believe I answered that already by saying that it did not belong to the SD.

DR. GAWLIK: No further questions.

DR. MERKEL (Defense Counsel for the Gestapo): I have a few short questions.

M. MONNERAY: May I first put in one more question in cross-examination.

RECROSS-EXAMINATION

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q The defense counsel asked you about Amt VII of the SD, didn't he?

A Yes.

Q Do you know that Amt VII had a special section for Jewish questions?

A A group that concerned itself with Jewish writings, yes.

Q Did you know Ballensiefen?

A Not personally.

Q Did you know that he was in Hungary?

A I did not meet him in Hungary. I did not know - it is possible.

Q Do you know that he was in charge of this group on Jewish Questions?

A No, I did not know that.

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Q Did you know that he reported about _____ Jews in Hungary at a meeting of Jewish Experts in April 1944?

A I did not meet him in Budapest.

M. MONNERAY: No further questions.

RE-DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY DR. MERKEL:

Q Was the Group Eichmann part of the Amt IV of the Reich Security Main Office or was it an independent and special consulting body or commission?

A Eichmann always called his consulting body or commission IVA or IV B and never as an independent or special group.

Q Did the duties of the Group Eichmann generally belong to the duties of Amt IV?

A I did not know the goals and duties of the Gestapo sufficiently. I only know that Eichmann was part, as far as the organization is concerned, of Amt IV.

DR. MERKEL: I have no further questions.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: The witness may retire.

(The Commission adjourned at 1105 hours.)

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The foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the testimony of DIETER WISLICENY, taken on 14 June 1946.

Mabel A Lesser
Reporter

CERTIFIED TO:

Joseph F Tubridy
Commissioner

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OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENSE OF ORGANIZATIONS, TAKEN BEFORE A COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL DATED 13 MARCH 1946.

14 June 1946

COMMISSIONER:

Captain Joseph Tubridy

THE SD

(The Commission convened at 1000 hours).

DIETER WISLICENY, a witness, took the stand and testified as follows:

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Does the witness understand that he is still under oath ?

WITNESS: Yes.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Dr. Pelckmann, did you want to ask this witness any questions ?

DR. PELCKMANN: I have only about three or four questions.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Very well, proceed.

RE-DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY DR. PELCKMANN: (Defense Counsel for the SS)

Q. Witness, you told that after you had explained to the members or the representative of the Joint Distribution Committee that the Jews were being sent towards a "final solution" that the knowledge of this spread among the Jews. You also told that it was made clear by radio broadcasts and foreign newspaper articles that Jews being deported to the East were going to their doom and it is said that due to the fact that was known in all foreign papers that the entire SD should have had knowledge of this too. Is that right ?

A. When I talked to the gentlemen from the Joint Distribution Committee they already heard of the purposes of this deportation. Some rumors or stories had leaked out through refugees coming from Poland. As far as I know the foreign newspapers and foreign radios only let this fact be known to wide circles or publicized this fact in 1944.

However, within the SD only certain persons or certain groups were concerned with foriegn radio and newspaper stories and it was not the case that every SD member could read foreign papers or even listen to the foreign radio. Therefore I do not know to what extent the general knowledge of these occurences was prevalent due to foreign newspaper and radio stories.

Q. Was it such that members of Amt VI, that is Foreign Intelligence, that if they received such news or messages through foreign radio or foreign press, could they give out this information to their friends and colleagues ?

A. I do not know what the relation was within Amt VI. However, I know that between Amt III and Amt VII and Amt VI there was virtually no official or personal relation.

Q. The Prosecution maintained in your questioning that the Jews who were being deported to the East knew of their fate. I would like to find out from you whether they did or, if they did not know what their fate was, tell us why they could not have any idea or could not have known what would happen to them.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Excuse me a minute. Dr. Pelckmann, you should not ask questions like that. You are practically telling the witness what you are wanting him to testify to.

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DR. PELCKMANN: I will attempt to word it differently.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Very well.

BY DR. PELCKMANN:

Q. What measures were made or were attempted in order that the Jews would not get any idea what their fate would be, that is, that they would be gassed or liquidated ?

A. First of all, the entire action was called "resettlement." The Jews were permitted to take 100 pounds of baggage and it was generally attempted to make it seem like a resettlement to Poland.

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Q. And when they arrived in the camps what measures were taken in order to lull them into a false security, that is to make them think that here was only a very peaceful atmosphere ?

A. I do not know that from my own knowledge. Eichmann only told me that the Jews were always told that they would be deloused and similar things.

Q. However, the fact that they were allowed to take only 100 pounds of baggage and that they were not allowed to take any valuables whatsoever or any foreign currency, for instance from Greece, it was that fact that the Prosecution maintains should have aroused the suspicions of the people and of the personnel. Can you explain this ?

A. As far as the money and gold was concerned , the facts were thus:

COLONEL ORLOV: The witness is not speaking loudly or slowly enough.

A. (continued) As far as the cash money was concerned the Greek Drachmen could not be used as a coin of exchange in Poland and the taking along of gold was prohibited through the German Foreign Currency Law. As far as the 100

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pounds of baggage limit was concerned, that was nothing special, since during the evacuation or re-settlement of the Poles into the General Government area or Military Government Area, they could take only 100 pounds of baggage also. I also know of various other re-settlement projects where the settlers were allowed to take along only 100 pounds of baggage.

Q Did you know that the Jews that were emigrated out of Germany in 1939 or 1938 eve, that they also were not allowed to take along any foreign currency or cash money whatsoever and that the Germans that were being deported or sent out of Czechoslovakia and Poland also were allowed only 100 pounds of baggage and besides that they were not allowed to take any money along?

A Yes, I know that from the press.

Q You were asked various questions concerning whether or not you had seen the camp of Auschwitz since it seemed that you gave different answers at various times. First let me ask you quite a general question. Do you believe that camps like Auschwitz were cut off from the outside world and so far distant from any human settlement that it was very hard for any outsider to find out what was actually happening within this camp?

A I am very sorry if I have created an opinion that I contradicted myself at various times of my interrogations. When you hear the word Auschwitz today it has two meanings to every person that hears it, first you have the geographical idea of a little town of Auschwitz and secondly you get immediately the idea of gas chambers and the liquidation or extermination of Jews. When I spoke to Hoess, the commandant of Auschwitz, the first time, I did not enter the camp. He called up camp headquarters and reported to me that Hoess was at present at a hotel called Haus der Waffen-SS near the railroad station of Auschwitz. The guard suggested to me that I do not drive through the camp itselfsince there was a steady control in their check points and suggested that I drive around the entire camp to the other side to the little town of Auschwitz. That is what I did and I met Hoess in this hotel or casino. We had a conversation of about half an hour and I left Auschwitz without having entered the camp. The second time I was south in the summer of 1942 with the Slovak newspaper man, Fialla. We were in Upper Silesia and visited Jewish Workers Camps. In the morning we were in Sosnovize and visited the ghetto and saw large factories in which Jews worked for the

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armament industry. In the afternoon we drove to Auschwitz where another Workers' Camp was supposed to be shown to us. As we drove towards the camp on the road Kattowitz-Krakhov, I noticed that around the entire camp was a huge circle or a huge area that was not settled. We went to the Camp Headquarters and there Hoess told us that the area of the camp consisted of about 150,000 morgen. He mentioned that within this area there was a factory for synthetic rubber, a mine, and there were also huge agricultural areas. We then left the headquarters and took a few steps to a large group of buildings that was immediately behind the headquarters. This was the administration buildings, a huge kitchen and right opposite it some barracks. We visited that area or group of buildings. We then went back to the headquarters, to the commandant office, where our cars were. Hoess drove away with the first car and I followed in the next car, with the Slovak journalist. We drove along quite a distance, along a well built road, until we came first to a huge laundry and then to a huge carpenter workshop.

Q Was that within the cut-off, or the guarded camp area?

A Yes. The journalist was allowed to make pictures of this entire trip. After this trip we said goodbye to Hoess in front of the Headquarters and left Auschwitz. If, therefore, I am asked concerning Auschwitz, I have to say that I did not see the Auschwitz containing gas chambers, I did not see the Auschwitz of mass destruction of Jews, I saw Auschwitz only as a Work Camp. That is what I wanted to say before Colonel Brookhart during my interrogation.

Q Isn't it right that if you made this statement as explicitly as you made it here that this story was not taken down in transcript in its entirety but just parts thereof - a resume?

A I did not make such a complete and detailed description before Colonel Brookhart as I made it here before you. My visit to Auschwitz was not of such great importance during my interrogation that I had to make such a detailed statement.

DR. PELCKMANN: That is all.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY:

Q Did you meet von Thadden at Auschwitz?

A No.

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BY M. MONNERAY:

Q I would like to ask a question on the same subject. At what time where you in Greece?

A February 1942 until the end of March 1942.

Q Did you meet von Thaddăn?

A Yes.

Q In Greece?

A Yes.

Q Did you discuss the evacuation of Jews with him?

A No. It was purely a personal discussion in a small hotel in Athens.

Q What were his functions in Greece?

A I believe that he belonged to the staff of the Ambassador, Neubacher.

Q Had he any mission concerning the Jewish question?

A No, I only discussed the Jewish question with the Ambassador Altenburg.

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Q Were there two German ministers in Greece?

A Minister Altenburg was the Ambassador for political matters and Neubacher was for all economic matters.

Q But certain questions concerned at the same time the political aspect and the economic aspect, didn't they?

A Neubacher was the so-called representative for all economic matters in the Southeast.

Q The liquidation of Jews concerned the economical situation of the eastern countries, didn't it?

A That is right.

Q Thank you. I have no further questions. Oh, I'm sorry, there is another one....

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CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: I do not think it is important enough, Dr. Pelckmann, to press the point.

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Q You told us that you met Hoess at the Hotel "House of the Waffen-SS" didn't you?

A Yes.

Q Why, in the camp, was there a hotel called Waffen SS?

A That was outside the camp - that was in town.

Q Was a garrison of the Waffen-SS in the town of Auschwitz?

A No, I don't think so. I don't know.

Q Was Sturmbannfuehrer Guenther a member of the SD?

A There were two brothers, two Guenthers. I do not know which one you mean.

Q Where have they worked?

A One, Rolf, was the deputy of Eichmann in Berlin and the other one worked in Prague.

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Q And neither the one or the other was at any time in France?

A I don't believe they were in France.

Q Brunner, working in France, was he a member of the SD?

A Yes, I believe so.

M. MONNERAY: I have no further questions.

DR. GAWLIK,(Defense Counsel for the SD.): I have some questions.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Dr. Gawlik, along what lines do you intend to question the witness?

DR. GAWLIK: Along the same lines as I questioned the witness, that is concerning the cross-examination.

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BY DR. GAWLIK:

Q Witness, I present to you first the diagram which you made and which was one of the bases of the cross-examination. I wish you would tell me how many of these persons belonged to the Sd.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: For the purposes of the record may we have it indicated what the witness is looking at?

DR. GAWLIK: It is a document from the examination by the Prosecution of the 3rd of January 1946 before the Tribunal. As far as I remember it did not receive any Exhibit Number before the Tribunal. (Appendix A I. Position of Sub-sections IV A 4 b in AMT IV of RS HA responsible for solution of the Jewish Question.)

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Very well. Proceed.

BY DR. GAWLIK:

A The Chief of the Committee IV A 4 b, Obersturmbannfuehrer Eichmann...

Q Witness, for the sake of saving time I just want to know the number, how many people are there on this diagram and how many of these were in the SD.

A Of the 19 persons, leading personnel of Section IV a 4 b I do not

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know concerning all, what organization they belonged to or how many of them belonged to the SD and Gestapo. I do, however, know that eight of them belonged to the Gestapo and that 10 belonged to the SD. Concerning Obersturmbannfuehrer Krunig, I do not know whether he just belonged to the Allgemeine or Regular SS.

Q "itness, am I correct in supposing, and if I am not will you please correct me, that these persons that used to belong to the SD did not belong to that organization any more once they were transferred to the Commission Eichmann?

M. MONNERAY: I am sorry to interpose once more but I think it is necessary to ask the defense counsel not to frame the questions in this way. The witness knows immediately what answer the defense counsel would like to get.

DR. GAWLIK: I would like to have the right answer. I just asked the witness in this way in order to clear up any misunderstanding in the record.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: You would like to have it answered so that you would have the record cleared up in the fashion in which you would like to have it cleared up.

BY DR. GARLIK:

Q. Witness, then I ask you the following way. Clear up the relation between Office Eichmann and the SD. Did the SD members that were connected with Bureau Eichmann have anything at all to do with the SD?

A. I already attempted during my interrogation to clear up these points. The members that belonged to Group Eichmann that came from the SD received no orders whatsoever from the SD any more but solely from Eichmann and Amt IV. However, they were still, as far as personnel questions were concerned, in the SD.

Q. Was the Office Eichmann part of the Organization of the SD?

A. No.

Q. Thank you. Did offices or groups of the SD work together with Group Eichmann?

A. As far as I know, no.

Q. Did the offices of the SD, for instance especially Amt III, send any documents or anything whatsoever for the purpose of registration of Jews?

A. I don't know anything about that.

Q. How about Amt VI?

A. I don't know about that

Q. Amt VII?

A. I don't know anything about that either.

Q. Did Amt III of the Reich Security Main Office have a Jewish consultant or Jewish Commission?

A. No.

Q. Make it clear how long there was a Jewish Consultant or Jewish Commission in the SD.

A. From 1936 to 1939 when Amt II (1) was dissolved in the SD.

Q. Make it clear once more to us what was the duty or the goal of that consulting body or that committee.

A. I repeatedly stated during my interrogations and questioning that it was merely for the information of the Jewish Question, especially as far as emigration was concerned.

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Q. Did this Jewish consulting body or commission have as its purpose to prepare the extermination of the Jews?

A. No.

Q. Did the Action Eichmann belong to the duties or the goal of the SD?

A. I believe I answered that already by saying that it did not belong to the SD.

DR. GAWLIK: No further questions.

DR. MERKEL (Defense Counsel for the Gestapo): I have a few short questions.

M. MONNERAY: May I first put in one more question in cross-examination.

RECROSS-EXAMINATION

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q. The defense counsel asked you about Amt VII of the SD, didn't he?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know that Amt VII had a special section for Jewish questions?

A. A group that concerned itself with Jewish writings, yes.

Q. Did you know Ballensiefen?

A. Not personally.

Q. Did you know that he was in Hungary?

A. I did not meet him in Hungary. I did not know -- it is possible.

Q. Do you know that he was in charge of this group on Jewish Questions?

A. No, I did not know that.

Q. Did you know that he reported about Jews in Jungary at a meeting of Jewish Experts in April 1944?

A. I did not meet him in Budapest.

MR. MONNERAY: No further questions.

RE-DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY DR. MERKEL:

Q. Was the Group Eichmann part of the Amt IV of the Reich Security Main Office or was it an independent and special consulting body or commission?

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A. Eichmann always called his consulting body or commission IVA or IV B and never as an independent or special group.

Q. Did the duties of the Group Eichmann generally belong to the duties of Amt IV?

A. I did not know the goals and duties of the Gestapo sufficiently. I only know that Eichmann was part, as far as the organization is concerned, of Amt IV.

DR. MERKEL: I have no further questions.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: The witness may retire.

(The Commission adjourned at 1105 hours.)

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The foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the testimony of DIETER WISLICENY, taken on 14 June 1946.

Mabel A. Lesser
Reporter

CERTIFIED TO:

Joseph F. Tubridy
Commissioner.

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